

Easterling, Deborah

From: Easterling, Deborah
Sent: Monday, August 03, 2015 1:29 PM
To: .
Subject: RE: Duke Energy's Proposed Substation and Powerline Project (Docket ND-2015-20-E)

Dear Mr. Caulk:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your email to the Public Service Commission of South Carolina. Your email will become a part of ND-2015-20-E - Duke Energy Carolinas: Foothills Transmission and Substation Project- 45-Mile Transmission Line Between Asheville, NC, Power Plant and New Substation Near Campobello, SC, and will be posted on our website under this docket.

Please let me know if you should require any additional information.

Sincerely,

Deborah Easterling
Administrative Coordinator

From: Boyd, Jocelyn
Sent: Thursday, July 30, 2015 3:49 PM
To: Easterling, Deborah; Duke, Daphne; DeSanty, Tricia
Subject: FW: Duke Energy's Proposed Substation and Powerline Project (Docket ND-2015-20-E)

From: Thomas Caulk [[mailto:](#)]
Sent: Thursday, July 30, 2015 1:19 PM
To: Boyd, Jocelyn
Subject: Duke Energy's Proposed Substation and Powerline Project (Docket ND-2015-20-E)

Ms Boyd:

I am writing to protest the above-referenced project.

Duke Energy's proposed Foothills Transmission Line would have a tremendous adverse impact upon myself and my community; actually, I believe that the economic costs and the environmental impacts these transmission lines would impose upon our Foothills communities would be devastating!

The economy and culture of Polk County, NC and the neighboring Upstate South Carolina are founded upon the very thing this line would destroy....the natural beauty of this pristine community just beneath the Blue Ridge Escarpment. The clear cutting of a wide swath of forests and pastureland, and the erection of 14-story towers through the very heart of this stunning landscape is unfathomable. It would forever destroy the natural, rural beauty which has drawn so many of us from all over the world to invest our lives, our fortunes, and our futures in this wonderful area.

This rural landscape, consisting of rolling farms and mountain homesteads, today is home to an unparalleled equestrian economy, which, over its 100 year history, has always sought to preserve and enhance its natural beauty. Those efforts have recently resulted in the advent of the Tryon International Equestrian Center, a \$100 million investment (and growing) which has already raised the status of our equestrian community to "World Class". Amidst this equestrian life, an upscale retirement community has long sought out this area, and has created a unique, diverse culture. Allowing Duke Power to ravage the pristine beauty of our landscape would certainly discourage people of that type from moving to our area...it is why they come.

While I understand that Duke Power has demonstrated upon many occasions that it is not interested in the welfare of either people or the environment, and is - in my opinion - an excellent example of the "1%" generating even more wealth at the expense of the other "99%" (Stockholders first!), I do believe that there must be some sensible alternatives which would lessen the impact upon this wonderful area. I have read several articles about "underground" utility lines, and the general opinion seems to be that - while they are initially more expensive to install - they are much less costly to maintain....which could work to Duke's advantage. Have they even considered such an alternative? There's been no mention of it.

In closing.... We need you to help us save our Foothills. Places like this are rare in the world today, and MUST be treasured and preserved. Once lost, they can never be restored.

Sincerely,

Thomas W. Caulk